



## **Installer/Remover/Compliance Inspector Refresher Class Recap**

### **Licensee Portal Introduction**

Redge Meierhenry, DEQ

On February 26, 2015, the Underground Storage Tank (UST) section of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) conducted a comprehensive refresher class for approximately 60 department-licensed installers, removers, and compliance inspectors.

Every three years, 16 hours of continuing education credits (CECs) are required to renew an underground storage tank installer or compliance inspector license. Four hours are required every three years if the licensee is an UST remover only. Our class contributes towards licensees meeting their obligatory continuing education requirements in order to maintain their licensee in good standing with the UST program.

Scott Wilson, NOV Fiber Glass systems representative, provided training to the class on the proper procedures for installation of NOV pipe (both Ameron and AO Smith). Scott began his training session with an explanation of the acquisition of Ameron by NOV/FGS that merges the two technologies of Ameron and Smith, now known as NOV Fiber Glass Systems. Scott's discussion included hands on product samples, training videos and a written test that attendees completed. Those that passed successfully received a certificate of completion from the manufacturer.



**Jonathan McNeely, Tank Tech Inc.**

Jonathan McNeely of Tank Tech, Inc. was a class favorite with a lively presentation on lining single wall tanks and the conversion of single wall tanks to double wall (both as an upgrade to double wall and as a structural upgrade). These lining procedures are described by API 1631, Interior Lining and Periodic Inspection of Underground Storage Tanks and UL 1856, Underground Fuel Tank Internal Retrofit Systems.

A popular topic was introduced by Leanne Hackney of the UST program. Leanne described the origins of microbial induced corrosion that is being observed inside steel underground storage tanks. This phenomenon results from the ubiquitous in nature, acetic acid bacteria and the presence of ethanol that is a food source for the bacteria. Ethanol, as you are aware, is commonly mixed into fuel stocks to meet the Renewable Fuel Standard as part of Energy Act of 2005 legislative requirements. All the more interesting, Leanne presented photos taken inside of a Montana steel tank recently removed from service that are purported to show evidence of MIC. This presentation may be accessed on the program web page at <http://deq.mt.gov/UST/UstTraining/MIC.pdf>.

DEQ's Wally Jemmings briefed the licensees on upcoming proposed changes to EPA's Code of Federal regulations that will be reflected in Montana's UST rules following federal adoption. Proposed changes are significant and include monthly UST facility walk-through inspections performed by owners or operators, spill and overfill prevention equipment testing, regulatory inclusion of previously deferred airport hydrant systems, and groundwater and vapor monitoring phase-out for release detection. These are just a few of many comprehensive updates coming to federal underground storage tank regulations.

Dalynn Townsend and Chet Amborn of Windsor Solutions kicked off the Friday morning training session with a focus on preparing licensee's for the new look and feel of the online applications for compliance inspection and construction permitting. This IT project is a joint effort between the UST program and the DEQ Remediation Division and is focused on moving to a modern database structure that allows online access to facility owners and licensees. The move to current IT technology will have tremendous benefits and flexibility for the program to provide real-time information to our customers. For instance, the new database will allow online access to a facility UST equipment configuration. It will also allow owners to submit Corrective Action Plans electronically rather than hard copy. An important benefit to our licensed compliance inspectors will be the ability to move compliance inspections from their tablet device to our database without having to submit the paper copies of the inspection. This IT project is scheduled to be completed by fall 2015.



**Chet Amborn of Windsor Technologies, demonstrating our new database to licensees.**

The course was well received by attendees. DEQ is determined to build on past trainings by continuing to provide quality learning opportunities for UST professionals in the future.